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Theoretical Computer Science 351 (2006) 295

Theoretical Computer Science

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Editorial

Parameterized complexity has developed greatly in the last decade. It has become increasingly clear that it has a lot to say to workers in approximation, exact computation and heuristics. With this in mind, the first international *Workshop on Parameterized and Exact Computation (IWPEC 2004)* was held in Bergen, Norway, on September 14–16, 2004. The workshop, organized as part of *ALGO 2004*, covered original research in all aspects of parameterized and exact computation and complexity. Topics covered included new techniques for the design and analysis of parameterized and exact algorithms, parameterized complexity theory, relationships between parameterized complexity and traditional complexity, applications of parameterized computation, implementation issues of parameterized algorithms and high-performance computing. Papers represented a wide spectrum of recent research results, significant work-in-progress, and directions for future research.

Program Committee co-chairs were Rod Downey and Mike Fellows. Program Committee members were Hans Bodlaender, Jianer Chen, Frank Dehne, Erik Demaine, Jörg Flum, Jens Gramm, Martin Grohe, Michael Hallett, Russell Impagliazzo, Mike Langston, Rolf Niedermeier, Mark Ragan, Venkatesh Raman, Peter Rossmanith, Jan Arne Telle, Dimitrios Thilikos and Gerhard Woeginger.

In response to the call for papers, 47 papers were submitted. From these, the program committee selected 25 papers for presentation. In addition, invited lectures were given by Mike Langston and Gerhard Woeginger. The proceedings appeared in Springer-Verlag's Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Vol. 3162, edited by Downey and Fellows.

This volume represents a selection of more complete and final versions of 12 of the best papers from those accepted at *IWPEC 2004*. Subsequent to the Bergen meeting, these papers were fully refereed to the usual exacting standards of *Theoretical Computer Science*. We hope you enjoy the result.

June 2005

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0304-3975/$ - see front matter
doi:10.1016/j.tcs.2005.10.001